

THE REVENUE.

WHEN Sir LEONARD TILLEY, in submitting his Budget at the last opening of Parliament, something over a year ago, declared his expectation of collecting a total of about \$30,500,000, the statement was received with by no means general belief. The first six months of the fiscal year 1882-83 expired on the last day of last December, and the anticipations of the Finance Minister appear to be more than likely to be fulfilled. The following is a statement of revenue for the month of December last:—

Customs	\$1,482,97 99
Excise	649,581 43
Miscellaneous	348,885 19
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	\$2,480,764 61

The comparison with the December immediately preceding is as follows:—

Customs	\$1,349,542 02
Excise	565,780 07
Miscellaneous	403,649 06
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	\$2,318,971 15

Revenue for Dec., 1882	\$2,480,764 61
" " 1881	2,318,971 15

Increase for Dec., 1882..... \$161,793 46

The following is a comparative statement for the first six months of the fiscal year 1882-83, ending 31st December, 1882, and the first six months of the fiscal year 1881-82, ending 31st December, 1881:—

JULY TO DECEMBER, 1882.	
Customs	\$11,888,034 84
Excise	3,455,847 61
Miscellaneous	2,721,715 38
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	\$18,065,597 83

JULY TO DECEMBER, 1881.	
Customs	\$10,362,088 92
Inland Revenue	3,073,275 45
Miscellaneous	2,441,506 33
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	\$15,876,960 70

Revenue for first six months of 1882-83.....	\$18,065,597 83
Revenue for first six months of 1881-82.....	15,876,960 70

Increase for six months of 1882... \$2,188,637 13

It will thus be seen that the receipts of the first six months of the fiscal year 1882-83 so largely exceed even the sanguine forecast of the Finance Minister as to leave no room for doubt that the sum named by him will be at least fully reached, to put the matter in the least favorable way. It should be remembered, too, that this end has been reached, notwithstanding the abolition of the duties on tea and coffee, stamps on bills of exchange and promissory notes, and postage on newspapers. It seems only the other day that Canadian Finance Ministers were compelled to make annual trips, cap in hand, to Lombard Street, to raise funds to meet the national obligations, the shadowy terror of an all but inevitable repudiation ever accompanying them. Today we have no longer to enter into these periodical bargains for fresh tribute to English capitalists. On the contrary, our reputation is high, our financial custom sought, and our Treasury overflowing. It might have been thought that this last fact would have been universally satisfactory, if even on no higher ground than that novelty is pleasing, and assuredly it was a very new sensation to those who directed affairs at Ottawa. But there are not wanting a few

to declare that we have now a surfeit of revenue and that an undue amount is being extracted from the taxpayers. This would, if true, be at the worst an error on the safe side, but as a matter of fact our receipts are by no means in excess of our needs. Our growing national importance is forcing gigantic works upon us in developing our resources, as none know better than those to whom the Reports of the Ministers of Railways and Canals and of Public Works are not sealed books. Our income, indeed, is by no means equal to the expenditure we might profitably make, and perhaps ought to make. Every contributor to it, too, large or small, has ever before him the fact, unparalleled in the history of any other country, that every dollar of our disbursement is in the direction of peace and the extension of civilizing influences. Not one cent of it is soiled by contact in any shape with war outlay. There is not one drop of blood sprinkled on our national ledger, and so long as revenue is extracted only for such purposes as it now is, and the people are so easily able to pay it, they will not cavil at the gross amount. So long as we possess a Finance Minister of such consummate ability as Sir LEONARD TILLEY has proved himself to be, hostile criticism of the financial policy of the Government of which he is so invaluable a member will fall dead on the minds of our people as a whole, and the dissentients will hardly amount to a corporal's guard.

A DOOMED DUKE.

IT'S all up with "the Dook." A voice from the wilderness—that desert which his Grace says he wishes to make blossom as the rose—denounces him. Bobcaygeon has spoken in an independent manner, put its finger in the pie, and thus settled the aristocratic hash, if such a slight confusion of metaphors may be permitted. But is it really a voice—or a screech—from the backwoods which makes the forest primeval to resound with such denunciations as "That contemptible money-grabber, the Duke of MANCHESTER, will probably meet with a fitting punishment for his nefarious attempt to exact a toll from the poor settlers who seek to make a home in the frigid lands of the Northwest. The stock in his company has fallen considerably, and still continues to fall. It would be satisfactory to learn that the Duke loses every shilling he spent in his attempted extortion. It will be a good thing if the Duke himself should be put in the insolvent court as a warning and a caution to other land-grabbers who seek to place themselves between the settlers and the land and make a profit out of the settlers' necessities. If this thing had taken place in Ireland the Duke would have been potted from behind a hedge." Is it possible that one of our line—even if the founder of his family was in the dry goods trade in rather a limited way—should have safely confronted the horrors of the deep (return tickets at a re-

duction) to be called "a contemptible money-grabber"? Or is this a possible misprint for money-grubber? And if so, is not the last offence worse than the first? Like piling PELION upon OSSA, as it were? And then, adding pecuniary injury to vocal or rather plumed insult, to invoke his rapid reduction to his last shilling—his "ultimate bob," as his Grace himself is said to be in the habit of facetiously expressing it, as he gazes at the diurnal decadence of his doomed deposit—is certainly cruelly bad. Next, shillingless, penniless, to suffer mental vivisection before the truth-compelling Insolvent Court! Arrived at this stage, "the Dook" must be prepared to really welcome the final doom as pronounced at Bobcaygeon. It is merely to be "potted from behind a hedge," and that by an Irishman, which latter addendum to the already fatal recipe appears in some mysterious way to be supposed to enhance the terrors of the death-agony. To perish by the block would no doubt be more *à la mode* ducal, but that portion of an ancient yet truly respectable lethal apparatus is in this age non-existent in England. No doubt the executioner could easily find one at Bobcaygeon, however, and that without disturbing the forestry—a problem which our rural THERSITES ought to be able easily to work out of his own head.

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA.

IT is complained that whilst the Bank of Montreal and the British Bank think the notes of the Maritime Bank, as now constituted, worthy of confidence, and accept them at all their branches, the Bank of Nova Scotia has played the Maritime Bank a scurvy trick by throwing them out, thereby seriously discrediting its standing. We have no special knowledge of the quarrel, but it seems a pity to strike such a blow at the Maritime just as it is emerging into smooth water with a fair wind, and has justly obtained a large local confidence as well as with the outside world. According to the last statement the capital paid of the Bank of Nova Scotia is one million dollars, and it has Dominion Government deposits to the amount of nearly three hundred thousand dollars. It is on this latter item it probably crows, whilst the plucky little Maritime has only one third of that amount. On the other hand, the directors of the Maritime have borrowed little or nothing, whilst out of the chest of the Bank of Nova Scotia the directors for a long time have toyed with nearly half its capital. The Maritime should set to work and obtain more Government deposits, and it could then crow too. Where is Sir LEONARD? Let it be understood we charge no commission for this hint.

MONTREAL COTTON CO.—Mr. DAVID MORRICE has been elected a Director of the Montreal Cotton Company, in the place of the late Sir HUGH ALLAN. Mr. A. F. GAULT was elected to the Presidency, lately filled by the deceased Knight, and the Hon. R. THIBAudeau was elected Vice-President.